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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1905.

## Those Most Interested.

For a week now the columns of The Times have been open to discussion of the proposed increase in the moral instruction of the public schools. Scores of letters have been published, and many, many more have been received, and they have all indicated deep-seated conviction.

In the newspaper sense they have exhausted the question. That is to say, they have presented it in every reasonable light. If any more letters are printed, they must be largely echoes or restatements of what has already been said, and the space which these letters have filled—as every reader must know—is extremely valuable.

So The Times has decided to print no more letters on this subject unless they disclose the question in some new aspect or develop some phase of it hitherto unemphasized.

This conclusion is based largely on the point indicated. But it has further reinforcement in the fact that a practical and feasible means has been suggested to the Board of Education for obtaining the views of the persons most interested in the controversy. If the Board of Education adopts that means, the responses will provide all the information which the Board has need to use.

The Times thinks it most essential the views of the parents should be obtained. They are, after all, the only persons who can speak as of right. So far, the controversy has been conducted chiefly by orthodox churchmen on the one hand and opponents of the orthodox church on the other. Be they ever so earnest, these persons cannot possibly regard their interest in this matter as either so direct or so authoritative as that of the citizens whose children are being given their education in these schools.

## Sinews of War.

As they have been doing for many moons, the powers not engaged in fighting continue to deprecate the war. They contemplate it with horror. They think it strange that Russia will not sue for peace, and that Japan should keep on with the work of slaughter. All the same the financial centers are willing to advance the money necessary to sustain the strife. America, England, and Germany, each of them ready to send delegates to a peace congress, there to make fervid speeches and subscribe to engrossed resolutions with a dove on an olive branch stamped in the corner, are equally ready to dig into their strong boxes and supply the Japanese with money. Evidently the security is not yet exhausted. Given the collateral they would be as quick to do the same for Russia, but that country seems reduced to the necessity of consuming its own monetary vitals. If the people are told to yield their savings they can't help themselves, and might as well give up as to have the cash taken away by force.

The terrible record now being made will count against both Russia and Japan, but both of these countries will have some excuse in patriotism and national pride. The other peoples, accessory to rapine and butchery for a price, have no plea in mitigation. Greed is their inspiration, and the thought of being ashamed has not occurred to them.

## Store Clerks and Courtesy.

Those who watch American journalism have been impressed for several years with the rapid growth of American trades journals. The haberdashers, shoe manufacturers, grocers, wholesale merchants, confectioners, cotton growers, farmers, machinists, engineers of all kinds, and every department of union labor all have their official organs, and some have two or three.

The influence of these publications is largely problematical. They do not enter the field of the daily newspaper at all. They hardly conflict with the general magazines. Yet they are read with avidity and their editorial comment has the air of authority.

That influence, whatever it is, is now under a mild strain. Many of the journals which reach merchants have been urging on their subscribers the need for more courtesy among their clerks. They point out with much force the trade-bringing and trade-holding power of the salesman who serves the possible customer with alacrity and politeness and they cite specific instances where the knowledge of the writers where the advantage of superior wares and low prices have been outweighed by the disadvantage of surly or listless clerk service.

Washington clerks as a rule are

willing and polite. The exceptions can hardly be reformed by admonitions from trade journals. But the course of this campaign can be followed and their influence in such a matter gauged by interested Washingtonians in the columns of these same publications. They are certain to note the improvement if any is made, and reasonably likely to continue the agitation if there is no improvement.

## Hungry Children.

After careful investigation an inspector reports to the State board of charities of New York most startling conditions in relation to the food of children attending the industrial schools of that city. Perhaps there is some error in the conclusions of the inspector; let such be the hope. If he is not mistaken, the conditions revealed are shameful, and a reflection upon the economic system making clear some vicious and all but fatal defects.

The inspector declares that of 10,000 children embraced in his inquiry, 439 frequently begin the day's work without breakfast; 998 have insufficient food habitually; while 7,415 have a morning meal consisting of bread, with tea or coffee. Thus there are a few more than a thousand whom it may be assumed, have enough of a proper sort to eat. Naturally these children are unhealthy, and plainly anemic, growing up without the strength to enter upon the task of becoming productive citizens.

Exploitation of the fact that so great a wrong exists ought to lead to reform. It is useless to train the hands of children when there is nothing in their stomachs. Time is wasted in training the physically unfit to tasks for which they are never to be competent. Food for the body first and then food for the brain.

Charity is doing much, with the kindest intent, and often wasting its efforts. This country is not suffering for more libraries. It does not pine for an extra polish on the higher education. Neither does it want a soup kitchen era. It does want the introduction of some method that will give humble industry a chance. There is a national wickedness, not clearly defined, but its expression is visible in the countenances of wan faces of little children who do not know the meaning of a square meal. People with moderate fixed incomes find these, so far as buying capacity is concerned, about two-thirds as large as they were a decade ago. The same pinch is felt by the very poor. The first may cut down their expenses and still live in tolerable comfort, but the very poor, forced also to cut their expenses, go without breakfast.

## Points in Paragraphs.

Congregational ministers in New England have refused \$100,000 offered to them by Rockefeller for foreign missions. The money can be spent otherwise.

These seem to be the days when the erstwhile bloated bondholders take on rather the general appearance of a bloated string. Wall Street is paved with such attenuations.

Both armies are marching in the same direction. It is the word from the front—that is, from the Japanese front and the Russian rear.

We used to say "in a Pickwickian sense." Now we remark "in a Chadwickian sense," which stands for a lot more money.

The Japanese are learning that victories are the best bases for war loans.

Pouring oil on the troubled waters is a charitable act—but not in Kansas, if you use Standard oil.

There are some people down in Virginia who will do much campaigning this spring by writing checks. Anyhow, it's better than writing letters.

This is the question: If the czar went to the front, how long would it take him to get back to St. Petersburg and recall himself? The approaching return of Linlithgow will probably throw light on the difficulty.

Colorado settled the muss just as soon as Gen. Sherman Bell got home.

While the Pacific Coast is much agitated over the "brown peril" it has not reached the Russian degree of excitement about it.

Charlotte Perkins Stetson Gilman has stirred the ladies of England by telling them that men are more beautiful than women. Charlotte has been looking in her glass.

Castro seems to desire to know by personal experience whether that big stick has the bark on.

Somebody arises to defend word alcohol as not being the worst of drinks. Of course it is not. There's prussic acid, for instance.

## WATSA USE?

Watsa use for gattin' mad Jus' because you feel bad? You gon' feel worse an' worse Ev'ra time you stop an' curse You no gatta leave a long Wan, two, tree, four year, bimeby, Mebbe so you gonna die, So ez best from day to day Maka sunshine weetha yay. Don't be gattin' mad while You can have time to smile, Watsa use?

Padre Smeeth he tal me, too— Just like I tal to you. Wan day he es say: "Hallo! 'Watsa mak' you growls so? Ev'ra time you stop an' mad Eet ez mak' dabbio mad. Justa laugh, an' don'ta care. Den you mak' dabbio swear. Smila now, an' den bimeby You can smile w'en you die. Growls now, an' you weel yell Weeth dabbio den—well, Watsa use?"

—Catholic Standard and Times.

# IN THE CIRCLE OF SOCIETY

## Invitations Sent Sometimes by Telephone.

## DINNER AT GERMAN EMBASSY

Brilliant Reception at Which Baron and Baroness Sternberg Are Hosts. Other Matters.

There will be the usual informal air about all social doings today. Invitations for the luncheon and most of the dinner parties being given by phone, or in a similarly friendly manner.

The dinner and reception at the home of the German Ambassador and Baroness von Sternberg last night was, of course, an exception.

Those to dine with them were Secretary and Mrs. Hitchcock, the Spanish Minister, Mr. Ojeda, Mrs. Hale, Mrs. Hamilton Fish, Mrs. Wadsworth, Mrs. Robert Patterson, Mrs. Davis, Miss Langham, General Crozier, George Smalley, George Cabot Lodge, Count Sackendorff, Edward Morgan, and Commander and Mme Hebbelhaus, of the embassy staff.

The luncheon was a most becoming gown of light blue chiffon velvet and a diadem of diamonds, the dainty coloring of the gown blending beautifully with the white and gold decorations of the room and the flowers which formed the floral decorations.

Among the guests were M. and Mme. des Portes, and Mme. des Portes, Lieutenant Commander and the Viscountess de Farmon, Captain Fournier and Count de Chambray, all of the French embassy; the Japanese Minister, the Chilean Minister, Mrs. Wacker-Martin, Baron and Baroness de Tuyl, Mr. Pulido, the Portuguese Minister, the Chinese Minister, and Mrs. White, Justice and Mrs. Holmes, Miss Upham, Senator and Mrs. Wetmore, Senator Warren, Senator Beveridge, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. McGowan, Mr. and Mrs. Vezig, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lee, Mrs. McKee, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Cleveland Perkins, Miss Perkins, Miss Seckendorff, Miss Williams, Miss Sherrill, Mr. and Mrs. Edson Bradley, Dr. Charles Clinton Swisher, Mrs. Hunt Slater, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Keen, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Cropper, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Henderson, General and Mrs. Oliver, the Misses Oliver, Mr. and Mrs. Fidelity, Mr. and Mrs. William Phelps Eno, Mrs. Talmage, Miss Collier, Dr. and Mrs. General and Mrs. Siebert, Mr. and Mrs. Sargent, Mr. and Mrs. George J. McLaughlin, Mrs. Sheridan, and Mr. and Mrs. P. Lee Phillips.

Des Portes Are Hosts.

The Counselor of the French Embassy and Mme. des Portes de la Fosse were among the dinner hosts last night, having to dine with them Mrs. Rodgers, Mrs. Benedict, Mr. and Mrs. George Howard, Frank Ellis, Herr Schiller, of the German embassy; Mr. and Mrs. Wankin, of the Russian embassy; Mr. Wankin, of the Belgian legation, and Mme. des Portes de la Fosse.

Mr. and Mrs. Gaff also entertained a dinner party last evening, having among their guests Baron and Baroness Bussac, of the German embassy; Commander and Mrs. Mulligan, Capt. and Mrs. Morton Henry, Mrs. Nooley, Miss Lovering, Miss McCauley, Miss Gaff, representative Robert Gillette, and Mr. Lee.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Sixth Synagogue gave a most elegant entertainment and hop last night at the National Rifles' Armory, for the benefit of their new temple fund. There was a beautiful musical program, first consisting of violin solos by Prof. Anton Kasper, piano solos by Mrs. Frank Byram, and vocal solos by Mrs. A. Law Olmsky, after which a comedieta, "Mrs. Tubbs' Telegram," was very well acted by a star-studded cast. The floor was cleared for dancing at about 10:30, and everyone voted the affair not only a financial success, but also an artistic one.

RIDGELY-RUDOLPH WEDDING DAY

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur F. Rudolph have out cards announcing the marriage of their daughter, Helen Marjorie, to Charles du Pont Ridgely, of Camden, Del.

The ceremony was solemnized yesterday by the Rev. Frank Bristol at the parsonage of the Metropolitan M. E. Church, in the presence of immediate relatives.

The bride, who is well known in Washington, was attired in her going-away gown of gray broadcloth.

The couple left immediately after the ceremony for their future home in Camden, Del., where the groom is of one of the oldest families in the State and a cousin of the late Governor Hunn.

A quiet wedding was solemnized yesterday afternoon when Benjamin Smoot, of Montgomery county, Md., and Miss Florence Bowdle, eldest daughter of Mrs. Alice B. Bowdle, were married at the bride's residence, in the Iowa. The ceremony was witnessed by the immediate relatives of the contracting parties and was performed by the Rev. George Calvert Carter, rector of St. Andrew's.

The bride, who is stately and handsome, was beautifully gowned in white silk chiffon and old lace, the veil being a family heirloom.

Her sister, Bridget was of lilacs of the valley and Bride roses. She was given away by her mother, and attended by her sister, Miss Alice Naylor Bowdle, as maid of honor. Mr. and Mrs. Smoot left for a short bridal tour, and will be at home for the summer on Mr. Smoot's estate in Maryland.

Ernest Ellsworth Fisher and Miss Ruth Kidwell, both of this city, were married at noon yesterday at Rockville, Md., by the Rev. W. F. Locke, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Edward Perkins Stephenson and Miss Eva Jones Dronenborg, also of Washington, were married in Rockville yesterday.

Miss Irene Sickle, who has been the guest of Miss Edna Weyl this winter, has gone to Baltimore for a visit to relatives. She will return here for a short stay before going West to her home in Chicago.

Miss Whitehead, widow of Charles Whitehead, of New York, has purchased as a permanent winter home the former home of Justice Gray, 1601 I street.

Mr. Theodore W. Birney is visiting Mrs. Aldace F. Walker, of New York city.

Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Fish Webster have joined the large New York contingent passing the spring season in Washington and are now established in the Horstman residence, 170 Rhode Island avenue, which they have leased for the several months.

Dr. McAdams has returned from a visit to Atlantic City.

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—Catholic Standard and Times.



MISS CAROLYN HUFF, Daughter of Representative and Mrs. George F. Huff, One of the Most Popular Girls in Washington Society.

## SEÑOR DE ASPIROZ ALL AT EMBASSY

His Trip to Mexico Delayed by the Grip.

NEW MINISTER FROM SPAIN

Personal Gossip of the Diplomatic Corps—M. S. Shaw Slowly Regaining Health.

On account of the continued indisposition of the Mexican Ambassador, Señor de Aspiroz, his trip to Mexico, upon which his wife, Señora de Aspiroz, was to accompany him, has been deferred. The ambassador is suffering from a severe attack of grip and as soon as his condition warrants, the journey will be undertaken.

Señor Epifanio Portela, at present Argentine minister to Spain, has been appointed minister to Washington as the successor to Señor García Merou, who has been promoted to Berlin. The new minister is expected here some time this spring.

The Brazilian Minister, Señor Nabuco, who was expected here some time in March, probably will not arrive until later in the spring.

Favorable news is daily received from Mrs. Shaw, wife of the Secretary of the Treasury, who recently underwent an operation at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore.

Mrs. Teunis Hamlin has gone to New York for a visit with Miss Helen Gould.

Miss Julia Kellogg, whose marriage to Andrew Y. Bradley will take place Saturday noon at the Church of the Covenant, is confined to her bed by temporary illness, and has canceled all engagements, absolute rest and quiet having been ordered by her physician until Saturday.

Mrs. Morton Henry gave a small tea this afternoon in compliment to Miss Prince, of Boston.

O'Shaughnessy's Sail.

Nelson O'Shaughnessy, secretary of legation at Copenhagen, and Mrs. O'Shaughnessy, who have been recent guests of Mr. Ridgely and Miss Ridgely, in this city, sailed on Monday for Denmark.

Mrs. Burrows, wife of the Senator from Michigan, has gone to Atlantic City to pass several weeks. Mrs. Burrows will return to Washington in April and remain at her Massachusetts avenue home until after the annual congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which will open April 17.

Senator and Mrs. Elkins and Miss Elkins left yesterday for New York to remain until next week.

Senator and Mrs. Dryden will leave today for several weeks' stay at Atlantic City before going to their home at Newark, where they will pass the spring, going later to Bearssville, N. J., where they will pass the summer.

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# RELIGION IN THE SCHOOLS

## If Not in the Schools Morals Will Not Be Taught.

For reasons stated in the editorial columns today no further communications on the subject of religion in the schools than those herewith printed will likely be published. It is a matter of regret that it has been impossible to give space to a great number of letters on the subject which have been sent to The Times, many of them giving expression of strong argument and deep interest.

## If Not in the Schools Morals Will Not Be Taught

To the Editor of The Washington Times: The question of religious or moral training in the public schools, it seems to me, is of the most vital importance, and should be handled with the greatest possible delicacy and thoughtful consideration. In the first place, the subject is not, nor ever has been, any commendable movement set on foot that has not been met with the most bitter and unreasonable opposition by people who are born chronic kickers, whose reason is blinded either by prejudice or ignorance.

In the present case there seems to be a great amount of unnecessary and silly gibbering over a very simple question, and that the opponents are making a big time over a little matter. A matter that is self-explanatory, as is readily seen by anyone who is honest and sincere enough to look it squarely in the face. The position they take is not only illogical, but it is also entirely unjust. There is no essential way of adjusting such difficulties like a cool and considerate measuring up.

Some of the opponents are raising a great hubbub and scare about the danger of sectarianism, compulsion, force, and what not, without pausing to consider just how far or what elements are prescribed in the proposed code of instruction.

They admit, however, almost without exception, that they approve of moral training, but it should be taught in the home. That's right; it should be, but I don't now see how they can get it there. That there should be moral training somewhere is painfully evident, and I believe that the best thing to do is to teach it in the home, at school, at home, or in the streets, so long as it is taught with implicitly and with a specific purpose of making our boys and girls better. I have had some personal experience along this line, and I know what I am talking about when I say that I have never seen a "wrong" rightness, or bad effect from good example, and as to text-books, we certainly want the best that can be had, regardless of name, and if some of our would-be wiseacres can dig up anything better than the Holy Scriptures we will use it. As a matter of fact, however, when we stop to coolly and calmly measure the question by the light of reason and pause to consider the matter, we find that we want it, I think it will be generally admitted by the right thinking people of the District that the Bible has abundantly proven itself to be both reliable and effective as a text-book of morals, and that appropriate selections from it can be relied upon for good, wholesome results, and that the school room is the one most effective place for its application.

Our schools are very good as they are, but would be vastly better if the children were once every day brought to know and think something about God the Creator. In conclusion I wish to say that this, of course, is merely my view of the matter, and that I am not a priest, nor a minister, nor a member of any church, and that I leave to the decision of my readers and editor, with thanks for the space he has given me for its expression.

Washington, March 21. EARNEST.

NEW HAMPSHIREITES PLEASANTLY ENTERTAINED

The New Hampshire Association met at its headquarters last night and was pleasantly entertained with a musical program.

The Ladies' English and Latin Music Club, with Mrs. Clara Baker Smith as directress, and Miss Clara Moran, accompanist, gave the following program:

"Home, Sweet Home." Johnson. Ladies' English and Latin Music Club; tenor solo, "Good Night," Belore, John A. Finnegan; alto solo, "Non Pieu Mea," Rossini, Miss Nellie O'Hare; soprano solo, "Merely I Roam," Miss Nellie Conigan; "Little Cotton Dolly," Geibel, the Music Club; trio, "Li Prezo," Nicholas, Mrs. Smith, Miss Baptista, Mr. Finnegan; alto solo, "He Was a Prince," O'Hare; alto solo, "The Angelus," Miss Regina Baptista and Music Club.

PURITAN ENTERTAINMENT GIVEN BY ADAS-ISRAEL

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Adas-Israel congregation gave a puritan entertainment and hop last night at National Rifles Armory. The receipts will be added to the building fund of the congregation.

A musical program was given. Leon C. Byram, at the piano, and an orchestra rendered the following: "March," Mrs. Frank Byram gave two piano selections and Prof. Anton Kasper played the violin. Two vocal solos were by Mrs. Amy Law Ormsby, and recitations by Ernest Glickner.

The members of the congregation and auxiliary presented a comedieta, "Mrs. Tubbs' Telegram."

After the comedy the evening was spent in dancing.

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR DR. RICHARD H. THOMPSON

Funeral services were held this afternoon at 3 o'clock over the remains of Dr. Richard Hamilton Thompson, at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. C. K. Vingling, 224 Seventeenth street northwest. The Rev. Dr. William H. Chapman, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, officiated.

The body will be buried in the cemetery at Freedom, Carroll county, Md., tomorrow.

Dr. Thompson, born in 1818 in Damascus, Montgomery county, Md., after receiving a public school education in the town of his birth, went to Baltimore and later graduated from the Baltimore Medical College. He practiced in Carroll county and vicinity for forty-five years, and then went to Baltimore, where he remained until three years ago, when he came to this city, where he resided with his daughter until his death.

Dr. Thompson was a prominent member of the Southern Methodist Church for over forty years.

The deceased is survived by five children and eight grandchildren: Mrs. S. W. Huddaway, whose husband was for many years Chaplain of the House of Representatives; Mrs. C. K. Vingling, of this city; Mrs. George W. Arnold, of West Virginia; Samuel I. Thompson, of Baltimore; and L. D. Thompson, of Hagerstown, Md.

CLERKS FORMALLY OPEN THEIR NEW QUARTERS

The Clerks' Mutual Benefit and Protective Association celebrated last night the formal opening of their new quarters in the American Home Life Insurance Building, corner of Fifth and G streets northwest, with an excellent literary and musical entertainment and a supper.

M. D. Rosenberg, attorney for the association, delivered the address of the evening. He spoke of the purpose and growth of the organization. Others who contributed to the entertainment were: Lewis A. Elbert, pianist; E. R. Levy, Benjamin Dreyfus, and Messrs. Seymour and Shalefford.

The committee in charge of the entertainment were: H. C. Fisher, chairman; Joseph D. Dreyfus, A. J. Kelley and J. L. Kolb.

## Home and Sunday School Place for Religion

To the Editor of The Washington Times: The letter of "D. L. S.," published in The Times March 18, closes with words that represent the opinion of a very large part of our people. He says: "Leave religious instruction and moral training to the parents of the child and the Sunday school. That's where it belongs—not in the curriculum of the public school."

Before our present public school system became so thoroughly established there were many who opposed all state aid and state interference in educational matters, and their discussions all boiled down to the declaration of "D. L. S." There are very many today who believe that such a policy, however beneficial to the citizen and the state, nevertheless, not within the province of the government of the fathers.

And these will be the present justification a fruit of having taken the state authority out of the hands of the church. In the academic question, as is to my mind a bugbear of union of church and state. We all admit the blessings of our school system and would not now have it otherwise. We even see laws for compulsory attendance on the schools.

The very thing that seems with the necessities for educating our children the state provides for it and insists that they take it. Our public schools no longer provide for the education of the three "R's"; they finish the education of thousands of our children and encroach upon the province of the college and technical school, so that our boys and girls reach manhood and womanhood with the ideals given by the public schools.

Here seems to me the strongest argument in favor of the move recently advocated by the committee of fifteen. The state demands that its children shall attend school; it no longer confines itself to rudimentary work, but offers technical and scientific instruction, high grade finishing schools. It justifies this interference with the individual the grounds of civic necessity—to make good citizens.

If it has seemed so imperative to have good citizens that the states created by citizens, have undertaken to make them good, is it not the imperative duty of the state to aim to make the best citizens? The state has undertaken to manage this thing of producing good citizens, how can it avoid the responsibility of furnishing the best possible form of education? The only justification for the assumption of authority is that it is the best way to procure the best results. Just as the gentleman and Agnostic regard our public school as the safeguard of our Government. They believe it makes for the good of the state because they believe it tends to increase the number of good citizens. They must all admit, then, that what tends to make the greatest number of best citizens must likewise tend to be the best interests of the state.

Does not the question, then, come to every citizen, because they believe that moral and religious training tends to make a better citizen than a mere knowledge of science? The only way to fail to see how any but the Agnostic can regard it in any other light.

W. H. R.

Father Regrets Disregard Of Religious Instruction

To the Editor of The Washington Times: On the question of religious instruction in the public schools, it seems to me that the trouble with our people is not a lack of moral knowledge, but a living in direct contravention of well known laws of morality. The air is saturated with moral and religious instruction. There is probably no human being of sound mind in this country who could plead ignorance at the bar of heaven of the fundamental laws of spiritual and moral life. The truth is, that they are so familiar, and have so long been violated by generations, that a heredity has been acquired that sets them at naught, or regards them as of no consequence.

This evil cannot be got at in the public schools. A perfunctory and formal rattling off of Scripture passages and commandments, already too well known, will only confirm present needlessness, and add to, rather than lessen, moral culpability.

The children's misfortune is to live in a moral atmosphere free with knowledge, but foul from disregard of that knowledge, and consequently more baneful to the human soul than absolute ignorance.

It is the moral and religious atmosphere of the home and the street that tells. Where this is at fault there is only one place of machinery to correct it, and that is in the church.

But where does the church stand in this grave matter? Does it teach that man is saved by works, or that he is saved by a bit of it, but rather that man is saved by mere belief in the merits of Christ. Salvation by faith is its cry, and not salvation by righteousness and life. Children are taught the commandments, and in the very next breath are told they are not commandments, but articles of faith there is disagreement among the clergy. How many of them know who their God is?

But they say Jesus Christ was God incarnate; that he was God manifested to men in flesh; that he was the Everlasting Father, who created the world, and that many of them believe and preach this? Do they not say that he was a man, the son of Joseph, his father, and that he was crucified, and that he was one of three beings, and that these three beings are after all but one being? What do they mean by this? Is it polytheism in monotheism, which is an absurdity. They say at one time that God is one being, and that this one being is God, and at another they declare that God is three beings, but that these three beings are one being. Such reasoning would not be accepted in any other line of thought. Asked to define this God, they say he is a being without body, parts, and passions, which is the best definition of nothing that can be given. They profess to be masters in Israel; but how many of them can tell you anything positive about the other life or the laws of life, which prevail there? You might as well go out and put the question to your brick wall as to ask them. They fail utterly to see their God in Jesus Christ. The old Jews recognized his claim better than these moderns, for they said they stoned him, because he, being a man, made himself God (John 8:58), not a part of God, but God himself.

Religion to them is really something outside of man, a creature in effort, him, not a gradual upbuilding of spiritual structure. It is all a question of flat with them; of vengeance and grace—a hodge-podge of irrational premises and conclusions. It is a matter of presented for the first time to a man of sound reason, and can only maintain itself by incultation in early childhood.

As a taxpayer and father of a son in the public schools, I am therefore bitterly opposed to the project now before the public of keeping this three in one and one in three system in the present course of the world is the curse of valury, of struggle for show and prominence. The chief thing drilled into the minds of the young is to get ahead in the world. Where this is the main spring of action, there cannot fail to be all sorts of evil consequences. What the church needs is to get away from Paul and back to Christ, and recognize in him its God, and the moral atmosphere will clear.

Washington, March 21. H. H. SMITH.

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